

**Greatest of All Times**

**108**

**G  
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A  
T**

**Globally selected  
PERSONALITIES**

*"Being pregnant is an occupational  
hazard of being a wife."*

*- Queen Victoria*



FAMOUSQUOTES123.COM



**22 May 1819 <::><::><::> 22 Jan 1901**

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ISBN:978-81-982285-4-3

**Na Subbureddiar 100 Educational Trust**

[An ISO 9001 - 2015 Certified]

AD-13, 5th Street, Anna Nagar West, Chennai - 600 040

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24 May 1819



22 Jan 1901

<https://www.royal.uk/encyclopedia/victoria-r-1837-1901>

Victoria was born at Kensington Palace, London, on 24 May 1819. She was the only daughter of Edward, Duke of Kent, fourth son of George III. Her father died shortly after her birth and she became heir to the throne because the three uncles who were ahead of her in the succession - George IV, Frederick Duke of York, and William IV - had no legitimate children who survived.

Warmhearted and lively, Victoria had a gift for drawing and painting; educated by a governess at home, she was a natural diarist and kept a regular journal throughout her life. On William IV's death in 1837, she became Queen at the age of 18.

Queen Victoria is associated with Britain's great age of industrial expansion, economic progress and, especially, empire. At her death, it was said, Britain had a worldwide empire on which the sun never set.

In the early part of her reign, she was influenced by two men: her first Prime Minister, Lord Melbourne, and then her husband, [Prince Albert](#), whom she married in 1840. Both men taught her much about how to be a ruler in a 'constitutional monarchy', in which the monarch had very few powers but could use much influence.

Albert took an active interest in the arts, science, trade and industry; the project for which he is best remembered was the Great Exhibition of 1851, the profits from which helped to establish the South Kensington museums complex in London.

Her marriage to Prince Albert produced nine children between 1840 and 1857. Most of her children married into other Royal families of Europe.

Edward VII (born 1841), married Alexandra, daughter of Christian IX of Denmark. Alfred, Duke of Edinburgh and of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha (born 1844) married Marie of Russia. Arthur, Duke of Connaught (born 1850) married Louise Margaret of Prussia. Leopold, Duke of Albany (born 1853) married Helen of Waldeck-Pyrmont.

Victoria, Princess Royal (born 1840) married Friedrich III, German Emperor. Alice (born 1843) married Ludwig IV, Grand Duke of Hesse and by Rhine. Helena (born 1846) married Christian of Schleswig-Holstein. Louise (born 1848) married John Campbell, 9th Duke of Argyll. Beatrice (born 1857) married Henry of Battenberg.

Victoria bought Osborne House (later presented to the nation by Edward VII) on the Isle of Wight as a family home in 1845, and Albert bought Balmoral in 1852.

Victoria was deeply attached to her husband and she sank into depression after he died, aged 42, in 1861. She had lost a devoted husband and her principal trusted adviser in affairs of state. For the rest of her reign, she wore black.

Until the late 1860s she rarely appeared in public; although she never neglected her official Correspondence, and continued to give audiences to her ministers and official visitors, she was reluctant to resume a full public life.

She was persuaded to open Parliament in person in 1866 and 1867, but she was widely criticised for living in seclusion and quite a strong republican movement developed.

Seven attempts were made on Victoria's life, between 1840 and 1882 - her courageous attitude towards these attacks greatly strengthened her popularity.

With time, the private urgings of her family and the flattering attention of Benjamin Disraeli, Prime Minister in 1868 and from 1874 to 1880, the Queen gradually resumed her public duties.

In foreign policy, the Queen's influence during the middle years of her reign was generally used to support peace and reconciliation. In 1864, Victoria pressed her ministers not to intervene in the Prussia-Denmark

war, and her letter to the German Emperor (whose son had married her daughter) in 1875 helped to avert a second Franco-German war.

On the Eastern Question in the 1870s - the issue of Britain's policy towards the declining Turkish Empire in Europe - Victoria (unlike Gladstone) believed that Britain, while pressing for necessary reforms, ought to uphold Turkish hegemony as a bulwark of stability against Russia, and maintain bi-partisanship at a time when Britain could be involved in war.

Victoria's popularity grew with the increasing imperial sentiment from the 1870s onwards. After the Indian Mutiny of 1857, the government of India was transferred from the East India Company to the Crown, with the position of Governor General upgraded to Viceroy, and in 1877 Victoria became Empress of India under the Royal Titles Act passed by Disraeli's government.

During Victoria's long reign, direct political power moved away from the sovereign. A series of Acts broadened the social and economic base of the electorate.

These acts included the Second Reform Act of 1867; the introduction of the secret ballot in 1872, which made it impossible to pressurise voters by bribery or intimidation; and the Representation of the Peoples Act of 1884 - all householders and lodgers in accommodation worth at least £10 a year, and occupiers of land worth £10 a year, were entitled to vote.

Despite this decline in the Sovereign's power, Victoria showed that a monarch who had a high level of prestige and who was prepared to master the details of political life could exert an important influence.

This was demonstrated by her mediation between the Commons and the Lords, during the acrimonious passing of the Irish Church Disestablishment Act of 1869 and the 1884 Reform Act.

It was during Victoria's reign that the modern idea of the constitutional monarch, whose role was to remain above political parties, began to evolve. But Victoria herself was not always non-partisan and she took the opportunity to give her opinions, sometimes very forcefully, in private.

After the Second Reform Act of 1867, and the growth of the two-party (Liberal and Conservative) system, the Queen's room for manoeuvre decreased. Her freedom to choose which individual should occupy the premiership was increasingly restricted.

In 1880, she tried, unsuccessfully, to stop William Gladstone - whom she disliked as much as she admired Disraeli and whose policies she distrusted - from becoming Prime Minister. She much preferred the Marquess of Hartington, another statesman from the Liberal party which had just won the general election. She did not get her way.

She was a very strong supporter of Empire, which brought her closer both to Disraeli and to the Marquess of Salisbury, her last Prime Minister.

Although conservative in some respects - like many at the time she opposed giving women the vote - on social issues, she tended to favour measures to improve the lot of the poor, such as the Royal Commission on housing. She also supported many charities involved in education, hospitals and other areas.

Victoria and her family travelled and were seen on an unprecedented scale, thanks to transport improvements and other technical changes such as the spread of newspapers and the invention of photography. Victoria was the first reigning monarch to use trains - she made her first train journey in 1842.

In her later years, she became the symbol of the British Empire. Both the Golden (1887) and the Diamond (1897) Jubilees, held to celebrate the 50th and 60th anniversaries of the Queen's accession, were marked with great displays and public ceremonies. On both occasions, Colonial Conferences attended by the Prime Ministers of the self-governing colonies were held.

Despite her advanced age, Victoria continued her duties to the end - including an official visit to Dublin in 1900. The Boer War in South Africa overshadowed the end of her reign. As in the Crimean War nearly half a century earlier, Victoria reviewed her troops and visited hospitals; she remained undaunted by British reverses during the campaign: 'We are not interested in the possibilities of defeat; they do not exist.'

Victoria died at Osborne House on the Isle of Wight, on 22 January 1901 after a reign which lasted almost 64 years, then the longest in British history. Her son, [Edward VII](#) succeeded her.

She was buried at Windsor beside Prince Albert, in the Frogmore Royal Mausoleum, which she had built for their final resting place. Above the Mausoleum door are inscribed Victoria's words:

*"Farewell best beloved,  
here at last I shall rest with thee,  
with thee in Christ I shall rise again."*





Queen Victoria as a Princess.



Beloved half-sister  
Feodore



Queen Victoria receiving the news of her Accession by Henry Tanworth Wells

## A slightly chaotic coronation



A crowd of 400,000 gathered on the streets of London to catch a glimpse of the Queen on her Coronation Day. She was crowned in Westminster Abbey.

She wore robes of white satin and red velvet. The five-hour ceremony was a little chaotic as the Dean of Westminster, who had presided over previous coronations, was ill. Victoria was handed the orb at the wrong moment and the Archbishop of Canterbury forced a ring on the wrong finger, which took her an hour to remove. After the ceremony Victoria returned to Buckingham Palace for a family banquet and watched fireworks from her mother's balcony.





State portrait of Queen Victoria



Prince Albert [Husband]



## A royal white wedding



Victoria fell in love with her first cousin Prince Albert of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha when he visited Britain in 1839.

As head of state, she had to propose to him. The couple were married the following year. Victoria wore a large white wedding dress and had a tiered wedding cake. This started a new tradition among brides who in the past had worn their Sunday best to the ceremony. The relationship was a passionate one and Victoria often lost her temper with her new husband. Albert took on the role of 'moral tutor' to Victoria, which irritated her but meant she relied more heavily on him.



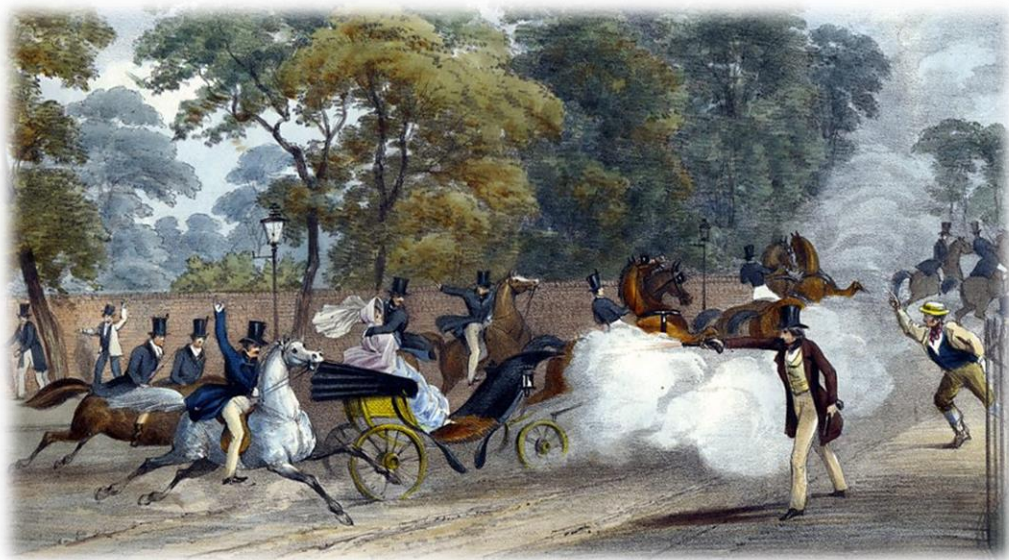
Queen Victoria and Prince Albert in court dress.





*Queen Victoria and Prince Albert with their nine children.*

A lithograph depicting the first assassination attempt on Victoria.



The Queen – who often rode in an open carriage – was the target of eight attempts to kill or assault her during her lifetime.

In the first attempt a teenager called Edward Oxford fired at her as she was out driving with Albert near Buckingham Palace. The gunman was seized by onlookers. The Queen was shaken but managed to smile at crowds on her return trip through Hyde Park. Oxford was later found to be of 'unsound mind' and sent to Bedlam (the state criminal lunatic asylum). He was released in 1867 and deported to Australia. All of the Queen's assailants worked alone and were judged to have mental health conditions.





### **The Great Exhibition**

At the other end of the scale from the tough lives of working people was the celebration of technological innovation and the expansion of trade and British interests.

Prince Albert was a highly intelligent man, with a social conscience, interested in trade, industry, art and science.

In 1851 he organised the massively successful Great Exhibition, with over 100,000 exhibits from all over world, including the famous Koh-i-Nûr diamond.

## Death of Prince Albert

Sadly for Victoria, the person she depended on for strength and support would soon leave her. In 1861 Victoria too suffered great losses, that shocked her to the core.

First, her mother died in March, but worse was to come. Later that year, her beloved Albert fell ill and died on 14 December 1861, aged only 42. Victoria was devastated.

She wrote to her uncle Leopold: 'The poor fatherless baby of eight months is now the utterly broken-hearted and crushed widow of forty-two! My life as a happy one is ended! The world is gone for me!'

Just three weeks after Albert's death in 1861, Victoria held a Privy Council meeting. She was so grief-stricken she could not utter a word.



## A grieving family

For this wedding photograph celebrating the marriage of The Prince of Wales to Princess Alexandra of Denmark in 1863, the Queen insisted the group was posed around a bust of her beloved Albert.



## The Widow of Windsor

The Queen's withdrawal from public life into seclusion caused wider problems. People began to assume that she was incapable of doing her job. In the years following Albert's death, it seemed that she had become paralysed with grief.

Victoria lost the confidence to appear in public, retreating behind the walls of Windsor Castle to the disappointment, and the increasing disrespect, of her subjects. There were even calls for the abolition of the monarchy. However, two men helped her recover in the years that followed.



## John Brown



Victoria became close to her plain speaking 'Highland servant', John Brown, after Albert's death in 1861. She described his constant presence as 'a real comfort'.

Brown treated her kindly but firmly, as a woman rather than a monarch and slowly he helped her recover from her intense grief. His influence with the Queen made him highly unpopular within the royal household, which Victoria ignored.

Queen Victoria with John Brown at Osborne, 1865-67.

## Abdul Karim

In 1887, Victoria again angered the court by making a close favourite of her personal servant from India, Abdul Karim. As with John Brown, Karim attracted jealousy and prejudice, particularly because of his 'low' social background.

But Victoria did not listen to what people said, and went on in her own way.

Abdul Karim's job as 'Munshi' (teacher) was to teach her the language of Urdu, in which she became fluent, and her notes from her lessons still survive.



## Victoria and empire

**In the latter part of her life, the Queen became particularly involved in promoting the expansion of the Empire, until by the end of the reign it covered more than one-fifth of the world's land mass, including the whole of the Indian subcontinent, large parts of Africa, and colonies in the Caribbean.**

**However, the British Empire's gain represented a terrible loss for other nations and peoples, and towards the end of Victoria's reign, her empire was almost constantly at war.**

## Empress of India

**Victoria was crowned Empress of India on 1 May 1876, although her involvement had begun years before then.**

**By the 1840s she was appalled by the behaviour of the East India Company, who ran the British territories in India.**

**In 1856 she wrote, 'I always feel sorry for those poor deposed Indian Princes.'**

**Although she was fascinated by all things Indian, she never visited the country, which is perhaps why she found it possible to shut her eyes to some unpalatable facts.**

**She was, for example, happy to wear the Koh-i-Nûr diamond, seized by the British in 1842 during the Anglo-Sikh Wars.**



**State portrait of Queen Victoria in 1885. She wears the ribbon and star of the Garter with the badges of the Order of Victoria and Albert and the Crown of India.**



## Victoria's Diamond Jubilee



The Queen's splendid Golden Jubilee in 1887, and even more magnificent Diamond Jubilee in 1897 helped restore her popularity after her retreat from public view following Albert's death. The excitement around the celebrations in 1887 brought renewed vigour to her image but she couldn't forget her private grief, writing, 'The day has come, and I am alone'.

By 1897 she was more confident of the people's affection for herself and for the monarchy; she was seen as the nation's 'grandmother'. Victoria sent a telegraph message to the world thanking her subjects for their loyalty: 'From my heart I thank my beloved people. May God bless them!' She received thousands of congratulatory messages from all over the world.

Rare photograph of Queen Victoria  
smiling, 1887.

## Death of Queen Victoria



By 1901, Victoria had grown very frail and had to use a wheelchair. She was losing weight, she 'had lost so much flesh and had shrunk so as to appear about one half the person she had been'.

Her surviving dresses from this period reveal adaptations to accommodate an osteoarthritic hump on

her upper back.

Although nearly blind, she continued to write in her diary. The last entry was dated 13 January 1901, before her strength began to leave her.

As her life ebbed, her first grandson, Wilhelm II, King of Prussia, ('Kaiser Bill'), rushed from Germany to be by her side. She died in his arms, on 22 January at Osborne House, Isle of Wight.

Portrait of Queen Victoria, commissioned for her Diamond Jubilee in 1897. The Queen wears a white veil and crown and a bracelet with a portrait of Prince Albert.

## A new parliamentary tradition



The Irish State Coach has been used for the State Opening of Parliament since 1852.

The Queen began new royal traditions when she attended the first State Opening of Parliament in the new Palace of Westminster.

The original building had been demolished by fire in 1834. The Queen arrived in the Irish State Coach, which had been built the year before and processed through Parliament before making her speech. The protocols and traditions established then have been followed by every British monarch since.



# The Victoria Cross



The Victoria Cross was introduced by Queen Victoria to honour acts of great bravery during the Crimean War. It was awarded on merit instead of rank.

The Crimean War was fought by an alliance of countries including Britain against Russia. The Queen was suspected of secretly supporting the Russian Tsar. However, she allayed suspicions by taking an interest in the nursing of wounded soldiers. She also awarded the first Victoria Crosses personally to 62 men at a ceremony at Hyde Park in 1857. It was the first time officers and men had been decorated together.

## The Queen's Last Wishes

The Queen's body was brought back to London and crowds lined the streets as her funeral cortege passed on its way to her final resting place, St George's Chapel, Windsor.

Victoria had asked for certain items to be placed beside her in her coffin, including rings, locket, casts of the children's hands and Albert's dressing gown.

## Victoria's funeral



The Queen had wanted her funeral done 'with respect but simply'. Here, royal mourners follow the Queen's coffin on its gun carriage (with wheels muffled as she had requested) through the High Street on the way to St George's Chapel in Windsor Castle.

King Edward VII walked in the centre behind her coffin. On his left is Victoria's third son Prince Arthur and on the right of the King is Kaiser Wilhelm II.

## Grandmother of Europe



Victoria had also hoped, through the marriages of her children into the other royal families of Europe, to create a network of alliances that would keep Europe peaceful.

Between them, her children gave her 42 grandchildren, and by the turn of the 20th century, her grandchildren were on the thrones of Denmark, Greece, Norway, Germany, Romania, Russia and Spain.

This was a strategy doomed to failure, and it was Victoria's own grandson, Kaiser Wilhelm II, who led Germany into war against Britain in 1914.

Queen Victoria and family at Coburg on 21 April 1894. Sitting with the Queen in the second row is Kaiser Wilhelm II (left). Tsar Nicholas of Russia stands immediately above him with Tsarina Alexandra. The Prince of Wales, later Edward VII, stands immediately above Tsar Nicholas.





**HM Yacht 'Alberta' carrying the remains of Queen Victoria, passing through the fleet at Spithead, 1 February 1901, by William Lionel Wyllie.**

## Legacy

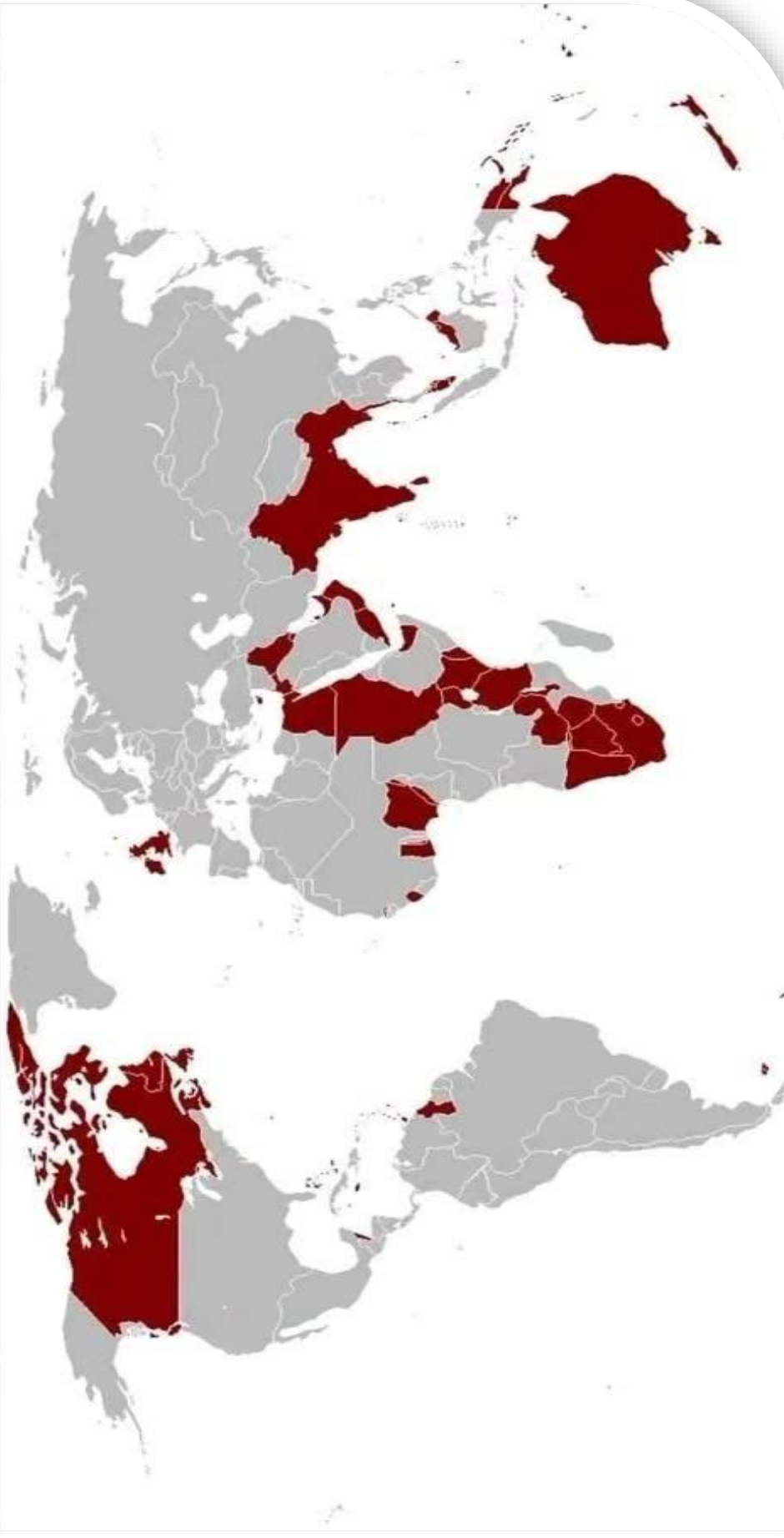
During Victoria's nearly 64-year reign, the British Empire was at its largest and most powerful. The empire included India, Australia, Canada, New Zealand and South Africa, and covered one-fifth of the globe and accounted for roughly one in four people on Earth. Locations around the world, from Victoria, Canada to Victoria Falls, Zambia to Queensland, Australia are named in her honor. The Victorian Era is noted for advancements in the arts and industry, inventions including telephone and telegraph and political reform and change.

She also helped shape popular culture: It was Victoria who started the trend of a bride wearing white on her wedding day and a widow wearing all black in mourning. Albert and Victoria made decorating Christmas trees customary. She is also credited with restoring the public's view of the monarchy.

Victoria died January 22, 1901 at the age of 81, with her heir Edward VII and Emperor Wilhelm II at her side. She was succeeded by her oldest son, Edward VII, and was buried next to Albert at the Frogmore Mausoleum near Windsor.



# Exactly 100 Years Ago The British Empire Was at its Territorial Peak







## Queen Victoria: Topics in Chronicling America

Queen Victoria pushed for expanding the English empire, and was the 2nd longest reigning monarch in British History. This guide provides access to material related to "Queen Victoria" in the Chronicling America digital collection of historic newspapers.

Please visit the following Web Link

<https://guides.loc.gov/chronicling-america-queen-victoria>



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Victoria, Queen of the United Kingdom (1819-1901)

Objects associated with **VICTORIA**  
Queen of the United Kingdom (1819-1901)

**20981 results with images**

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<https://www.rct.uk/collection/people/victoria-queen-of-the-united-kingdom-1819-1901>

## Some of the important Web Links which would take you to history of Victoria Era

- 01] <https://www.pbs.org/empires/victoria/history/passage.html>
- 02] <https://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/victoria>
- 03] <https://www.npg.org.uk/collections/search/person/mp04634/queen-victoria>
- 04] <https://en.chateauversailles.fr/discover/history/key-dates/visit-queen-victoria-1855>
- 05] <https://artsandculture.google.com/entity/queen-victoria/m0cw10?hl=en>
- 06] <https://www.qvmag.tas.gov.au/Home>
- 07] <https://www5.open.ac.uk/research-projects/making-britain/content/queen-victoria-becomes-empress-india>
- 08] <https://www.rct.uk/collection>
- 09] [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Queen\\_Victoria](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Queen_Victoria)
- 10] <https://www.rmg.co.uk/stories/topics/life-queen-victoria-her-family>
- 11] <https://www.history.com/topics/european-history/queen-victoria#family-and-descendants>
- 12] <https://www.hrp.org.uk/kensington-palace/history-and-stories/queen-victoria/#gs.hsdlg7>

# Titles, styles, honours, and arms

## Titles and styles

At the end of her reign, the Queen's full [style](#) was: "Her Majesty Victoria, by the Grace of God, of the [United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland](#) Queen, [Defender of the Faith](#), Empress of India".

## Honours

### British honours

- [Royal Family Order of George IV](#), 1826
- Founder of the [Victoria Cross](#) 5 February 1856
- Founder and Sovereign of the [Order of the Star of India](#), 25 June 1861
- Founder and Sovereign of the [Royal Order of Victoria and Albert](#), 10 February 1862
- Founder and Sovereign of the [Order of the Crown of India](#), 1 January 1878
- Founder and Sovereign of the [Order of the Indian Empire](#), 1 January 1878
- Founder and Sovereign of the [Royal Red Cross](#), 27 April 1883<sup>[241]</sup>
- Founder and Sovereign of the [Distinguished Service Order](#), 6 November 1886
- [Albert Medal](#) of the [Royal Society of Arts](#), 1887
- Founder and Sovereign of the [Royal Victorian Order](#), 23 April 1896

### Foreign honours

- [Spain](#):
  - Dame of the [Order of Queen Maria Luisa](#), 21 December 1833
  - Grand Cross of the [Order of Charles III](#)
- [Portugal](#):
  - Dame of the [Order of Queen Saint Isabel](#), 23 February 1836
  - Grand Cross of the [Order of the Immaculate Conception of Vila Viçosa](#)
- [Russia](#): [Grand Cross of St. Catherine](#), 26 June 1837
- [France](#): Grand Cross of the [Legion of Honour](#), 5 September 1843
- [Mexico/Mexican Empire](#):



- Grand Cross of the [National Order of Guadalupe](#), 1854
- Grand Cross of the [Imperial Order of San Carlos](#), 1866
- [Prussia](#): Dame of the [Order of Louise](#), 1st Division, 11 June 1857
- [Brazil](#): Grand Cross of the [Order of Pedro I](#), 3 December 1872
- [Persia](#):
  - [Order of the Sun](#), 1st Class in Diamonds, 20 June 1873
  - Order of the August Portrait, 20 June 1873
- [Siam](#):
  - [Grand Cross of the White Elephant](#), 1880
  - Dame of the [Order of the Royal House of Chakri](#), 1887
- [Hawaii](#): Grand Cross of the [Order of Kamehameha I](#), with Collar, July 1881
- [Serbia](#):
  - [Grand Cross of the Cross of Takovo](#), 1882
  - [Grand Cross of the White Eagle](#), 1883
  - [Grand Cross of St. Sava](#), 1897
- [Hesse and by Rhine](#): Dame of the [Golden Lion](#), 25 April 1885
- [Bulgaria](#): Order of the [Bulgarian Red Cross](#), August 1887
- [Ethiopia](#): Grand Cross of the [Seal of Solomon](#), 22 June 1897 - Diamond Jubilee gift
- [Montenegro](#): Grand Cross of the [Order of Prince Danilo I](#), 1897
- [Saxe-Coburg and Gotha](#): Silver Wedding Medal of Duke Alfred and Duchess Marie, 23 January 1899

### Arms

As Sovereign, Victoria used the [royal coat of arms of the United Kingdom](#). As she could not succeed to the throne of Hanover, her arms did not carry the Hanoverian symbols that were used by her immediate predecessors. Her arms have been borne by all of her successors on the throne.



Royal coat of arms  
outside Scotland



Royal coat of arms  
in Scotland

## Family

| Name   | Birth            | Death            | Spouse and children  |
|--|------------------|------------------|--|
| <a href="#"><u>Victoria, Princess Royal</u></a>                        | 1840<br>21 Nov   | 1901<br>5 August | Married 1858, <a href="#"><u>Frederick</u></a> , later German Emperor and King of Prussia (1831–1888);<br>4 sons (including <a href="#"><u>Wilhelm II, German Emperor</u></a> ),<br>4 daughters (including <a href="#"><u>Queen Sophia of Greece</u></a> ) |
| <a href="#"><u>Edward VII</u></a>                                      | 1841<br>9 Nov    | 1910<br>6 May    | Married 1863, <a href="#"><u>Princess Alexandra of Denmark</u></a> (1844–1925);<br>3 sons (including <a href="#"><u>King George V of the United Kingdom</u></a> ), 3 daughters (including <a href="#"><u>Queen Maud of Norway</u></a> )                    |
| <a href="#"><u>Princess Alice</u></a>                                  | 1843<br>25 April | 1878<br>14 Dec   | Married 1862, <a href="#"><u>Louis IV, Grand Duke of Hesse and by Rhine</u></a> (1837–1892);<br>2 sons, 5 daughters (including <a href="#"><u>Empress Alexandra Feodorovna of Russia</u></a> )   |
| <a href="#"><u>Alfred, Duke of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha</u></a>           | 1844<br>6 August | 1900<br>31 July  | Married 1874, <a href="#"><u>Grand Duchess Maria Alexandrovna of Russia</u></a> (1853–1920);<br>2 sons (1 <a href="#"><u>stillborn</u></a> ), 4 daughters<br>(including <a href="#"><u>Queen Marie of Romania</u></a> )                                    |
| <a href="#"><u>Princess Helena</u></a>                                 | 1846<br>25 May   | 1923<br>9 June   | Married 1866, <a href="#"><u>Prince Christian of Schleswig-Holstein</u></a> (1831–1917);<br>4 sons (1 <a href="#"><u>stillborn</u></a> ), 2 daughters  |
| <a href="#"><u>Princess Louise</u></a>                                 | 1848<br>18 March | 1939<br>3 Dec    | Married 1871, <a href="#"><u>John Campbell</u></a> , Marquess of Lorne, later 9th <a href="#"><u>Duke of Argyll</u></a> (1845–1914);<br>no issue   |
| <a href="#"><u>Prince Arthur, Duke of Connaught and Strathearn</u></a> | 1850<br>1 May    | 1942<br>16 Jan   | Married 1879, <a href="#"><u>Princess Louise Margaret of Prussia</u></a> (1860–1917);<br>1 son, 2 daughters (including <a href="#"><u>Crown Princess Margaret of Sweden</u></a> )  |

|  |                  |                  |   |
|--|------------------|------------------|---|
| <a href="#">Prince Leopold, Duke of Albany</a> | 1853<br>7 April  | 1884<br>28 March | Married 1882, <a href="#">Princess Helena of Waldeck and Pyrmont</a> (1861–1922);<br>1 son, 1 daughter  |
| <a href="#">Princess Beatrice</a>              | 1857<br>14 April | 1944<br>26 Oct   | Married 1885, <a href="#">Prince Henry of Battenberg</a> (1858–1896);<br>3 sons, 1 daughter ( <a href="#">Queen Victoria Eugenie of Spain</a> ) |

## Assassination Attempts

During Victoria's reign, eight assassination attempts were made on her life. All of them were unsuccessful.

The first attempt took place in 1840 when 18-year-old Edward Oxford fired at the Queen's carriage near Buckingham Palace in London. Oxford was accused of treason for his crime but was ultimately found not guilty for reasons of insanity.

Three attempts were made in 1842, two by the same man - John Francis, an unemployed carpenter. He attempted to shoot the Queen after her Sunday morning service at Chapel Royal in St James's Palace, London. On his second effort, he was promptly arrested and sent to Van Diemen's Land (later known as Tasmania), where he became a successful carpenter, helping to build the Launceston General Hospital on the island.

One year later, Robert Pate, a former officer, used a brass-tipped cane to hit the Queen in the head. Pate's attack was the only attempt that caused Victoria actual harm, and the mark on her forehead supposedly remained for a decade. Pate was immediately arrested and also sentenced to seven years in the Tasmanian penal colony. The reasons for the attack remain unknown.

A memorable final attempt took place in 1882 when a Scottish poet named Roderick Maclean shot at Queen Victoria's train carriage with a pistol as it left the Windsor train station. This was Maclean's eighth attempt at assassinating Victoria. Maclean was tried for high treason and was pronounced "not guilty, but insane." He was confined to an asylum until his death in 1921.



## Timeline

### Queen Victoria and Prince Albert

<https://www.royal.uk/timeline-queen-victoria-and-prince-albert>

Queen Victoria, supported by her consort Prince Albert, ruled through a period of great change. The Industrial Revolution and the expansion of the British Empire changed the world around them beyond recognition.

This timeline outlines key moments in the life which Victoria and Albert shared together as well as Victoria's personal accounts of these events, extracted from her journals. Access the archive here.

Kindly visit the cited Web Link for **MORE** information



<https://www.queenvictoria.com/>



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Savor a generous breakfast served buffet style and afternoon tea in the British fashion with decadent sweets and savouries served on the porches or in front of a glowing fireplace.



# Queen Victoria Hospital

<https://www.qvh.nhs.uk/>

## Welcome

Queen Victoria Hospital is a specialist NHS hospital providing life-changing reconstructive surgery, burns care and rehabilitation services for people who have been damaged or disfigured through accidents or disease.

Our world-leading clinical teams provide specialist surgery and non-surgical treatment for people across the south east and beyond. We specialise in conditions of the hands and eyes (corneoplastics), head and neck cancer and skin cancer, reconstructive breast surgery, maxillofacial surgery and prosthetics, providing regional and national services in these areas of clinical expertise.

In addition, the people of East Grinstead and the surrounding area benefit from our expert clinicians treating more common conditions of the eyes, hands, skin, and teeth. We also provide a minor injuries unit, therapies services and a sleep service.

We are a centre of excellence, with an international reputation for pioneering advanced techniques and treatments.

Everything we do is informed by our passion for providing the highest quality care, the best clinical outcomes and a safe and positive patient experience.

**[Watch our short film to find out more](#)**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y9fM5jwouwc>

At Queen Victoria Hospital, we change lives, helping people injured or disfigured through accidents and disease. We are world renowned for our reconstructive surgery and rehabilitation; rebuilding bodies and a sense of identity. Our specialist teams care for people across the south east and beyond, from our hospital in East Grinstead and at clinics across the region. We also offer routine treatments and procedures for local people.





<https://www.rct.uk/discover/school-and-family-resources/queen-victoria>



Queen Victoria is associated with Britain's great age of industrial expansion, economic progress and, especially, empire. At her death, it was said, Britain had a worldwide empire on which the sun never set.

Victoria was born at Kensington Palace, London, on 24 May 1819. She was the only daughter of Edward, Duke of Kent, the fourth son of George III. Victoria's father died shortly after her birth and she became heir to the throne because the three uncles who preceded her in the line of succession – George IV, Frederick, Duke of York, and William IV – had no surviving legitimate children.

It was during Victoria's reign that the modern idea of the constitutional monarch, whose role as Head of State remained separate to political parties, began to evolve.

This page highlights the varied opportunities to explore more about Queen Victoria and her life through the Royal Collection's objects, paintings, drawings, photographs and works of art.

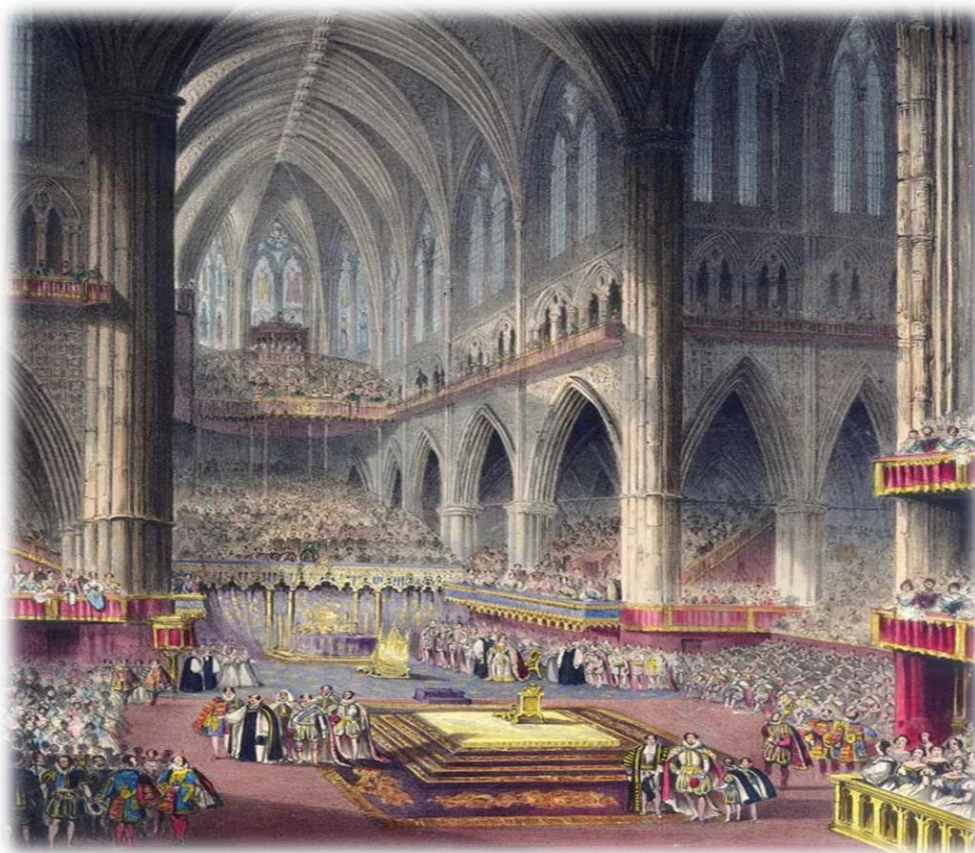
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### Other Related Commemorations

<https://www.westminster-abbey.org/abbey-commemorations/royals/queen-victoria/>

- 01] Queen Alexandra, Wife of Edwards VII [1844-1925]
- 02] Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother [1900-2002]
- 03] Elizabeth II [1926-2022]
- 04] Queen Anne [1665-1714]
- 05] Mary II [1662-1694]
- 06] James I and Anne of Denmark [1566-1625]

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Coronation of Queen Victoria at Westminster Abbey, 1838.

# Victoria

<https://www.imdb.com/title/tt5137338/>

**[TV Series: 2016-2019: TV-PG: 1h]**

The early life of Queen Victoria, from her ascension to the throne at the tender age of 18 to her courtship and marriage to Prince Albert.

Nominated for 2 Primetime Emmys

- 11 wins & 19 nominations total

Kindly visit **THIS** Web Link for details

[https://www.imdb.com/title/tt5137338/awards/?ref\\_=tt\\_awd](https://www.imdb.com/title/tt5137338/awards/?ref_=tt_awd)

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## The Museum of British Colonialism

**'Crowning the Coloniser':  
Queen Victoria, 1837-1901**

<https://museumofbritishcolonialism.org/2023-4-22-monarchy-and-empire-victoria/>

Queen Victoria (1837-1901) is synonymous with the British Empire. It was under her reign that the colonial Empire expanded rapidly to the point where 'the sun never sets on the British Empire'.

Victoria was also influential in establishing the modern Monarchy, moving toward a more public-friendly family values and ceremonial institution. Victoria and her husband Albert were viewed by the public largely as the ideal couple and they garnered a reputation for benevolent Christian humanitarians owing to the various causes they



championed. Victoria and Albert were noted abolitionists and supported Royal Navy deployments to West Africa in an effort to stop illegal slave trading.



A cartoon depicting the assumption of Crown rule in India after the Indian Rebellion of 1857

Yet this reputation, sits ill at ease with the reality of imperial rule and expansion under Victoria. Whilst the Monarchy did become more ceremonial over her 64-year reign, she wielded palpable influence, particularly around imperial policy.

### **Government of India Bill**

Victoria influenced the contents of the Government of India Bill 1858 which removed the East India Company from its role as the de facto government of India after the Indian Rebellion of 1857, and placed India under Crown rule. Her and Albert insisted on the following provisions

- Creation of a single army with one chain of command;
- Commitment from Britain to public works schemes of irrigation and railways;
- A restriction on the powers and composition of the new advisory Council of India—Victoria was particularly insistent that the new Secretary of State for India should have the power to override the Council;
- The requirement that the Crown see all dispatches relating to India, as in the existing arrangement with the Foreign Office;
- All government proclamations in India be made in Victoria's name;

- The conciliation of the Indian princes, through respect for their religions, and confirmation of their lineage and legitimacy

### **A Colonial Custodian**

Victoria's relationship with India is best described as exoticizing and orientalist. She styled herself in the 1860s as 'Empress of India', a title that would later be officially bestowed upon her by Parliament in 1876. Victoria saw herself as heir to the Mughal Emperors and to that effect, wore the Koh-I-Noor Diamond on her crown after it's looting in 1842 from the Sikh Empire.

Indeed, she held this orientalist attitude towards many of the peoples colonised by Britain. One example of this was her adoption of Sarah Forbes Bonetta, born Aina. Aina was a Princess of the Egabo clan taken prisoner by the King of Dahomey. A British officer negotiated her freedom in 1850 specifically as a 'gift' for Victoria. Aina was transported to England where she was stripped of her name and christened Sarah Forbes Bonetta. Victoria acted as the child's patron and godmother, readily taking up the cause of the poor little 'Dahoman captive'.



Duleep Singh, last Maharajah of the Sikh Empire

Victoria also befriended Duleep Singh, the last Maharajah of the Sikh Empire. This friendship illustrates the conflict between Victoria's personal relationships and presiding over a global Empire. On one hand, the two enjoyed a close but tumultuous friendship but on the other, Victoria's forces were the ones who had deposed Singh from his throne. Indeed, it was Victoria herself that attempted to bribe Singh with the offer of making his sons hereditary peers in exchange for his acceptance of Crown ownership of the Koh-I-Noor diamond and other jewels looted by British forces.

Victoria embodied the 'benevolence' of British imperialism. Whilst there is no evidence of her directly mistreating Aina or even Singh, they were ultimately subjected to her power, and expected to adhere to British and Western norms. Conversion to Christianity was expected and encouraged. In the case of Singh, he came under pressure to assimilate into the British aristocracy and accept the Crown's rule over his former kingdom.

Victoria was well informed of colonial policy; whilst she was a self-declared anti-racist and humanitarian, she was an advocate for benevolent imperialism everywhere. She justified the Empire on the basis that the British were kind rulers, especially compared to other Europeans. She was kept regularly informed of developments and often, as in the South African War (1899-1902) displayed a keen determination that the cause of British imperialism should prevail against the resistance of the Boer republics.

Under Victoria, members of the Royal family began to participate more in the ceremonial activities. Her son and heir, the future Edward VII, visited India many times in an official capacity. These visits are the origins of the modern-day Commonwealth tour and the 'PR Monarchy.' As the Monarchy gradually lost more of its political power over the running of the Empire, they assumed more and more ceremonial power. The Royal Family came to be the pinnacle of the Empire and the symbol of imperial rule around the globe.



Indian colonial troops parade past the  
Palace of Westminster during the Queen's Diamond Jubilee in 1897



## The Queen of the Empire

Perhaps the ultimate symbol of the symbiotic relationship between the Empire and Monarchy in the Victorian era was that of the Golden and Diamond Jubilees. Nominally celebrations of the Queen's reign, both occasions in 1887 and 1897 were massive festivals of Empire. Colonial troops paraded through the streets of London. Exhibitions of far-off colonies were displayed. Union Jacks hung on every corner and God Save the Queen echoed throughout the land. For many, the now doughty Queen Victoria was a proxy for national and imperial pride.

Ultimately, Victoria's reign can be understood as the first in which the modern relationship between the Monarchy and the Empire was forged. She was the first Monarch to not profit or defend the slave trade and despite her declining policy influence, she and her family assumed the ceremonial role in imperial rule. The Empire gave the Royal Family status and relevance in a fast-evolving country, a symbiotic relationship that continues today under the Commonwealth.

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# Victoria Memorial Hall

## Kolkata, INDIA



[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Victoria\\_Memorial,\\_Kolkata](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Victoria_Memorial,_Kolkata)

**Victoria Memorial**, a majestic white marble edifice situated in the middle of 64 acres (25 ha) of sprawling gardens, dominating the centre of the Kolkata, India. Architecturally, it seems to reflect contemporary British civic classicism, but there are deliberate Eastern references as well.

The Victoria Memorial was conceived by Lord Curzon as a fitting monument to Queen Victoria of the United Kingdom following her death in 1901. He organized

funding for the project from within [India](#) and commissioned William Emerson, one of the leading British architects of the day, to design the edifice for the centre of the city that was then the capital of British India. The [prince of Wales](#) (later King [George V](#)) laid the cornerstone on January 4, 1906, and, after lengthy construction work, the building was formally opened on December 28, 1921.

The marble used to construct the building comes from the same Makrana quarries in [Rajasthan](#) that were used for the construction of the [Taj Mahal](#), and the corner domes are faintly [Mughal](#) in style. The whole [composition](#) is crowned by a bronze statue of the Angel of Victory that stands 16 feet (4.9 m) high; though not a true weather vane, it rotates when the wind is strong enough.

The sides of the memorial are linked by open colonnades and in the south entrance, approached through a triumphal archway [commemorating](#) King [Edward VII](#), there is a statue of Lord Curzon himself. The entrance hall contains bronze busts and marble statues of royal figures, and the walls are decorated with murals showing scenes from Queen Victoria's life and texts from her imperial proclamations. The interior rooms display important collections of paintings, sculpture, [artifacts](#), books, and manuscripts, all relating to royalty and empire.



The Angel of Victory, on top of the Memorial

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# Victoria Memorial

## LONDON

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Victoria\\_Memorial,\\_London](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Victoria_Memorial,_London)



The **Victoria Memorial** is a monument to [Queen Victoria](#), located at the end of [The Mall](#) in [London](#) by the sculptor Sir [Thomas Brock](#). Designed in 1901, it was unveiled on 16 May 1911, though it was not completed until 1924. It was the centrepiece of an ambitious urban planning scheme, which included the creation

of the Queen's Gardens to a design by Sir Aston Webb, and the refacing of Buckingham Palace (which stands behind the memorial) by the same architect.

Like the earlier Albert Memorial in Kensington Gardens, commemorating Victoria's consort, the Victoria Memorial has an elaborate scheme of iconographic sculpture. The central pylon of the memorial is of Pentelic marble, and individual statues are in Lasa marble and gilt bronze. The memorial weighs 2,300 tonnes (about 2535 short tons) and is 32 m (104 ft) in diameter. In 1970 it was listed at Grade I.

Victoria Memorial



|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Location</b>                          | <a href="#">The Mall</a>   |
| <b>Coordinates</b>                       | <br><a href="#">51°30′06.65″N 00°08′26.34″W</a> |
| <b><a href="#">OS grid reference</a></b> | <br><a href="#">TQ291797</a>                    |
| <b>Area</b>                              | <a href="#">London</a> , <a href="#">SW1</a>   |
| <b>Height</b>                            | 25 m   |
| <b>Unveiled</b>                          | 16 May 1911  |
| <b>Built</b>                             | 1901 (memorial gardens)<br>1906–24 (monument)  |
| <b>Restored</b>                          | bronzes – April 2011   |
| <b>Sculptor</b>                          | Sir <a href="#">Thomas Brock</a>   |
| <b>Architectural style(s)</b>            | <a href="#">Beaux-Arts</a> / <a href="#">Edwardian Baroque</a>   |
| <b>Governing body</b>                    | <a href="#">The Royal Parks</a>  |



# FAMILY

[https://www.imdb.com/name/nm0703075/bio/?ref=nm\\_ov\\_bio\\_sm](https://www.imdb.com/name/nm0703075/bio/?ref=nm_ov_bio_sm)

## Family

- Spouse  
[Prince Albert](#)(February 10, 1840 - December 14, 1861) (his death, 9 children)

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- Children  
[King Edward VII](#)  
[Princess Royal Victoria](#)  
[Duke of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha Alfred](#)  
[Helena of Schleswig-Holstein](#)  
[Grand Duchess Alice](#)  
[Duchess of Argyll Princess Louise](#)  
[Prince Arthur Duke of Connaught](#)  
[Prince Leopold of Duke of Albany](#)  
[Princess Henry of Battenberg](#)

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- Parents  
[Duke of Kent and Strathearn Prince Edward](#)  
[Duchess of Kent and Strathearn](#)

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- Relatives  
[Dronning Maud](#)(Grandchild)  
[Kaiser Wilhelm II](#)(Grandchild)  
[Duke of Windsor](#)(Great Grandchild)  
[Tsarina Alexandra](#)(Grandchild)  
[George III](#)(Grandparent)  
[Queen Charlotte](#)(Grandparent)  
[Princess Augusta of Cambridge](#)(Cousin)  
[Grand Duchess Olga](#)(Great Grandchild)  
[Grand Duchess Tatiana](#)(Great Grandchild)  
[Grand Duchess Maria](#)(Great Grandchild)  
[Grand Duchess Anastasia](#)(Great Grandchild)  
[Aleksy Nikolaevich Romanov](#)(Great Grandchild)  
[King George VI](#)(Great Grandchild)  
[Princess Mary](#)(Great Grandchild)  
[Duke of Gloucester](#)(Great Grandchild)  
[Duke of Kent](#)(Great Grandchild)  
[Prince John](#)(Great Grandchild)  
[King George V](#)(Grandchild)  
[Prince Albert Victor](#)(Grandchild)  
[Princess Louise](#)(Grandchild)  
[Princess Victoria of the United Kingdom](#)(Grandchild)  
[King Olav V](#)(Great Grandchild)  
[King Leopold II](#)(Cousin)  
[Prince Albert](#)(Cousin)  
[Dronning Ingrid](#)(Great Grandchild)

Viktoria Luise von Preußen(Great Grandchild)  
King Paul of Greece(Great Grandchild)  
Juan de Borbón(Great Grandchild)  
Alfonso de Borbón(Great Grandchild)  
Jaime de Borbón(Great Grandchild)  
Beatriz de Borbón y Battenberg(Great Grandchild)  
María Cristina de Borbón y Battenberg(Great Grandchild)  
Infante Gonzalo of Spain(Great Grandchild)  
Lady Iris Mountbatten(Great Grandchild)  
Queen Victoria Eugenia(Grandchild)  
Marija Karadjordjevic(Great Grandchild)  
King Carol II(Great Grandchild)  
Elena of Greece and Denmark(Great Grandchild)  
Mother Alexandra(Great Grandchild)  
King Georgios II(Great Grandchild)  
Princess Alice of Battenberg(Great Grandchild)  
Crown Prince Hohenzollern(Great Grandchild)  
August Wilhelm von Preußen(Great Grandchild)  
Princess Charlotte of Prussia(Grandchild)  
Princess Feodora of Saxe-Meiningen(Great Grandchild)  
Prince Henry of Prussia(Grandchild)  
Princess Irene of Prussia(Grandchild)  
Prince Waldemar of Prussia(Great Grandchild)  
Prince Sigismund of Prussia(Great Grandchild)  
Victoria Mountbatten(Grandchild)  
Prince George(Cousin)  
Queen Louise(Great Grandchild)  
Louis Mountbatten(Great Grandchild)  
Elizabeth Feodorovna(Grandchild)  
Ernest Louis(Grandchild)  
Grand Duchess Victoria Feodorovna of Russia(Grandchild)  
Vladimir Kirillovits Romanov(Great Grandchild)  
Her Grand Ducal Highness Princess Elisabeth of Hesse and by Rhine(Great Grandchild)  
Hereditary Grand Duke of Hesse Georg Donatus(Great Grandchild)  
Prince Of Hesse And By Rhine Louis(Great Grandchild)  
Prince Friedrich of Hesse and by Rhine(Grandchild)  
Princess Marie of Hesse and by Rhine(Grandchild)  
Hereditary Prince of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha Alfred(Grandchild)  
Queen Marie of Romania(Grandchild)  
Prince Nicholas of Hohenzollern-Sigmaringen(Great Grandchild)  
Princess Alexandra of Hohenlohe-Langenburg(Grandchild)  
Alexandra Beatrice of Hohenlohe-Langenburg(Great Grandchild)  
Princess Margaret of Connaught(Grandchild)  
Prince Gustaf Adolf(Great Grandchild)  
Princess Sibylla(Great Grandchild)  
Prince Sigvard Bernadotte(Great Grandchild)  
Bertil Gustaf Oskar Carl Eugén(Great Grandchild)

Carl Johan Bernadotte(Great Grandchild)  
Princess Patricia of Connaught(Grandchild)  
Princess Alice(Grandchild)  
Duke of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha Charles Edward(Grandchild)  
King George IV(Aunt or Uncle)  
Duke of York and Albany Prince Frederick(Aunt or Uncle)  
King William IV(Aunt or Uncle)  
Queen of Württemberg Charlotte(Aunt or Uncle)  
Princess Augusta Sophia of the United Kingdom(Aunt or Uncle)



Model of the statue of Queen Victoria in George Frampton's studio,  
undated (before 1902), presumed plaster.

ISBN 978-81-982285-4-3



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